



PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 03327.2314-00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Koji Iwasawa ) Group Art Unit: 2816  
Application No.: 10/712,344 ) Examiner: Unknown  
Filed: November 14, 2003 )  
For: METHOD OF PREDICTING A ) Confirmation No.: 1187  
LIFETIME OF FILAMENT IN ION )  
SOURCE AND ION SOURCE )  
DEVICE )

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Copies of the listed documents, including any copending patent applications, are attached.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

English translations of the non-English documents are enclosed.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

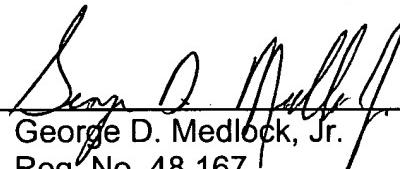
If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: May 19, 2004

By:

  
George D. Medlock, Jr.  
Reg. No. 48,167

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No.	03327.2314-00	Appln. No.	10/712,344
Applicant	Koji Iwasawa		
Filing Date	November 14, 2003	Group:	2816

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
	1012450	01/17/1989	JP			Abstract
	8227677	09/03/1996	JP			Abstract
	4306544	10/29/1992	JP			Abstract

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	European Search Report for Application No. GB 0326531.1 dated March 11, 2004.

Examiner	Date Considered
*Examiner:	Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.
Form PTO 1449	Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce